



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Wind Cave National Park

RR 1, Box 190
Hot Springs SD 57747

605-745-4600 phone
605-745-4207 fax

Wind Cave National Park News Release

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For Immediate Release
Tom Farrell 605-745-4600
tom_farrell@nps.gov

Environmental Assessment for Wind Cave National Park Boundary Adjustment Available for Public Review

Superintendent Linda Stoll announced today that Wind Cave National Park is soliciting public comments of an environmental assessment prepared for a proposed 6,555-acre boundary adjustment. This thirty-day comment period runs from April 8 to May 7.

Planning began after the owners of the Milliron and Casey Ranches, encompassing 5,555 acres, approached park officials regarding park interest in acquiring that land. In addition, the park is interested in acquiring 80 acres of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) property, 880 acres of South Dakota Public School Lands, and 40 acres of private land for sale by the owner. The proposed boundary adjustment would improve wildlife habitat, increase recreational opportunities, protect significant archeology sites, and support management of the park's existing land. Wind Cave National Park currently protects 28,295 acres of mixed-grass prairie and forest.

Superintendent Stoll invites the public to attend an informal open house at the Wind Cave Visitor Center on Thursday, April 18, from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. to discuss the plan with park staff and to comment on the alternatives.

Copies of the Environmental Assessment can be found on-line at www.nps.gov/wica. In addition, printed copies are available for review at the Custer and Hot Springs libraries and at the Wind Cave National Park visitor center desk. The public is invited to comment on the proposed plan by writing to Park Superintendent; Wind Cave National Park; RR 1, Box 190; Hot Springs, SD 57747 or via e-mail to: <wica_planning@nps.gov>. Comments will be accepted for 30 days and should be addressed to the Superintendent at one of the above addresses by May 7, 2002.

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